(d) The details of accidents for the period April to September, 2004, compared with the corresponding period of last year is as under:—

	April-Sept, 04	April-Sept., 03
Collisions	5	2
Derailments	71	120
Accidents at Unmanned Level Crossings	30	51
Accidents at Manned Level Crossings	2	4
Fire in Trains	6	8
Miscellaneous	1	4
TOTAL:	115	189

All figures are provisional.

Kullhars

†t1721. SHRILAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of Kullhars and Khadi etc. for the use of commuters in Railways has been started as per the announcement of the Minister, if so, since when; and

(b) the number of artisans got employment as a result of the said decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to introduce the use of Kullhars and Khadi w.e.f. 25.5.2004 and 09.06.2004 respectively.

(b) Introduction of Kullhars and Khadi/handloom products have provided job avenues for artisans and weaker sections of society as a whole. This has given additional source of earning and livelihood in the rural sector. However, it is not possible to assess the exact quantum of employment generated as a result of these decisions.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.